

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/798,979

Examiner

LUONG T. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

BECK ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on 1/29/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12, 14-16, 18-23 (renumbered as 1-5, 7-13, 14, 18-21, 15, 16, 6, 17, respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 01/29/2008 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-12, 14-16, 18-23 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an active pixel sensor array sampling system, comprising wherein one or more of the video or reset circuits include a single capacitor such that in a sampling mode the single capacitor is coupled between the column input and the input of the amplifier, exclusive of any other capacitor coupled to the input of the amplifier, and in a readout mode the single capacitor is coupled between the input of the amplifier and the output of the amplifier.

Claims 1-5, 22 are allowed for the reason given in claim 1.

Regarding claim 6, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an active pixel sensor array sampling system wherein the video and reset circuits each include a single capacitor selectively coupled between: (i) the column input and the input of the respective

amplifier and (ii) the input of the respective amplifier and the output of the respective amplifier, when the single capacitor is coupled between the column input and the input of the respective amplifier, the single capacitor is coupled to the input of the respective amplifier exclusive of any other capacitor coupled thereto.

Claims 7-10 are allowed for the reason given in claim 6.

Regarding claim 11, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a video amplifier for use in sampling an active pixel sensor array, the video amplifier comprising a video circuit having a single capacitor such that (i) in a sampling mode the capacitor is coupled between the column input and the input of the amplifier and (ii) in a readout mode the capacitor is coupled between the input of the amplifier and the output of the amplifier, when the single capacitor is coupled between the column input and the input of the amplifier, the single capacitor is coupled to the input of the respective amplifier exclusive of any other capacitor coupled thereto.

Claims 12, 14, 20, 21, 23 are allowed for the reason given in claim 11.

Regarding claim 15, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an integrated circuit including a video amplifier for use in sampling an active pixel sensor array, the video amplifier comprising a video and reset circuit having a single capacitor for holding the video voltage such that the capacitor is selectively switched between (i) the column input and the input of the amplifier in a sampling mode and (ii) the input of the amplifier and the output of the amplifier to transfer the video voltage in a readout mode, when the single capacitor is coupled

between the column input and the input of the amplifier, the single capacitor is coupled to the input of the respective amplifier exclusive of any other capacitor coupled thereto.

Claims 16, 18, 19 are allowed for the reason given in claim 15.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID.L. OMETZ can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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02/15/08



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER